CREATURES ON THE LOOSE
MARVEL COMICS GROUP™
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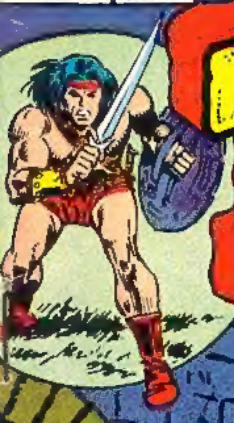
CREATURES ON THE LOOSE™

FEATURING

THONGOR™

WARRIOR OF LOST LEMURIA



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WHERE BROODS THE DEMON!

IT IS MIDNIGHT... FLICKERING FLAMES SHED DIM LIGHT IN THE STRONGHOLD OF THE DEPRAVED SORCERER, ATHMAR PHONS... AND IN THE SHADOWED VAULT A YOUTH NAMED THONGOR MUST BATTLE FOR HIS LIFE... AND HIS SOUL!
I HAVE BATTLED A THOUSAND FOES, CREATURE--
--AND I WILL NOT DIE AT THE HANDS OF SUCH AS YOU!
BASED ON THE STORY, "THIEVES OF ZANGABAL," by LIN CARTER

GEORGE EFFINGER, WRITER / VINCE COLLETTA / J. COSTANZA, LETTERER / ROY THOMAS
VAL MAYERIK, ARTIST / INKER / GLYNIS WEIN, COLORIST / EDITOR

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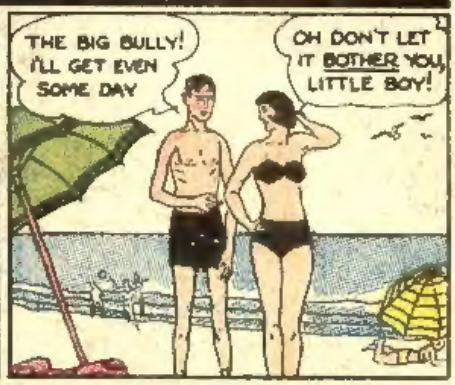
A THOUSAND FOES, INDEED, HAS THONGOR MET AND BEATEN IN HIS LIFE AS PIRATE, ADVENTURER, ASSASSIN.
TONIGHT HE IS A HIRED THIEF, AND HIS EXPERIENCE HAS ALL PREPARED HIM TO MEET THE SORCERER'S WATCHDOG--!
KRRANG!
GORM! THE FIEND HAS MADE HIS BODY LIKE TEMPERED STEEL!
NOW... YOU FALL!
WHOPP!
UNGGH!
BEHOLD, THING OF FLESH--
--MY FISTS ARE IRON!
KKAAK!
I AM DAZED.. I AM BLEEDING... BUT I AM NOT DEFEATED...
THEN LEARN THE COMMON FATE OF FOOLS AND THIEVES!
2

NOW, SWORD OF MY WARRIOR FATHER! MAY YOUR ELDRITCH RUNES PROTECT ME!
BLANGGG!
AAAGHH! IT IS LIKE SMITING A MOUNTAIN!
I WEARY OF THIS, FLESH-THING--!
I HAVE GROWN BORED.
WHOKK!
CROMMP!
WHAT THOUGHTS TRICKLE THROUGH THE MIND OF THONGOR OF THE BLACK HAWK TRIBE? OF KAMAN THUU, HIS EVIL EMPLOYER? OF THE MYSTIC BLACK MIRROR, HIS GOAL?

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

THE INSULT THAT MADE A MAN OUT OF "MAC"



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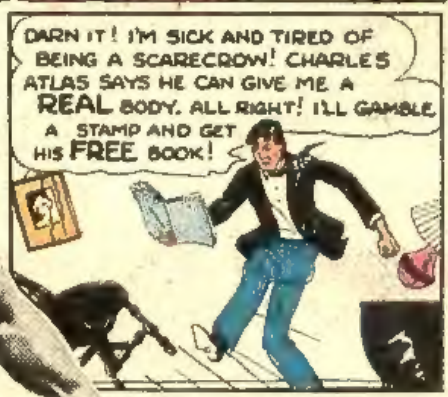
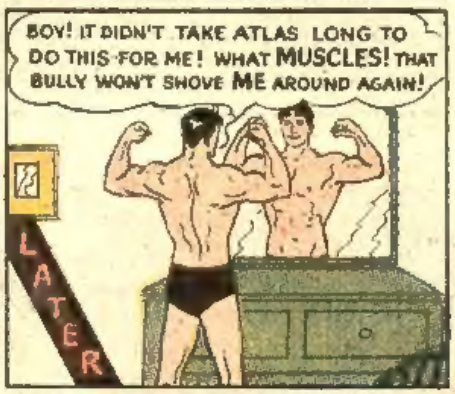
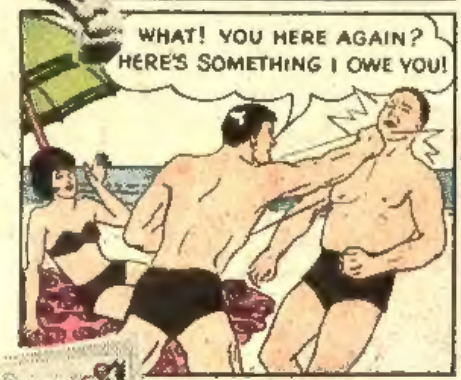
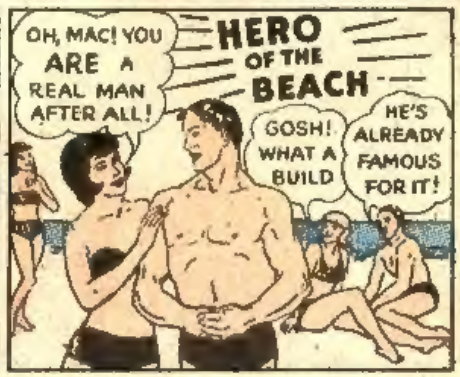

DARN IT! I'M SICK AND TIRED OF BEING A SCARECROW! CHARLES ATLAS SAYS HE CAN GIVE ME A REAL BODY. ALL RIGHT! I'LL GAMBLE A STAMP AND GET HIS FREE BOOK!







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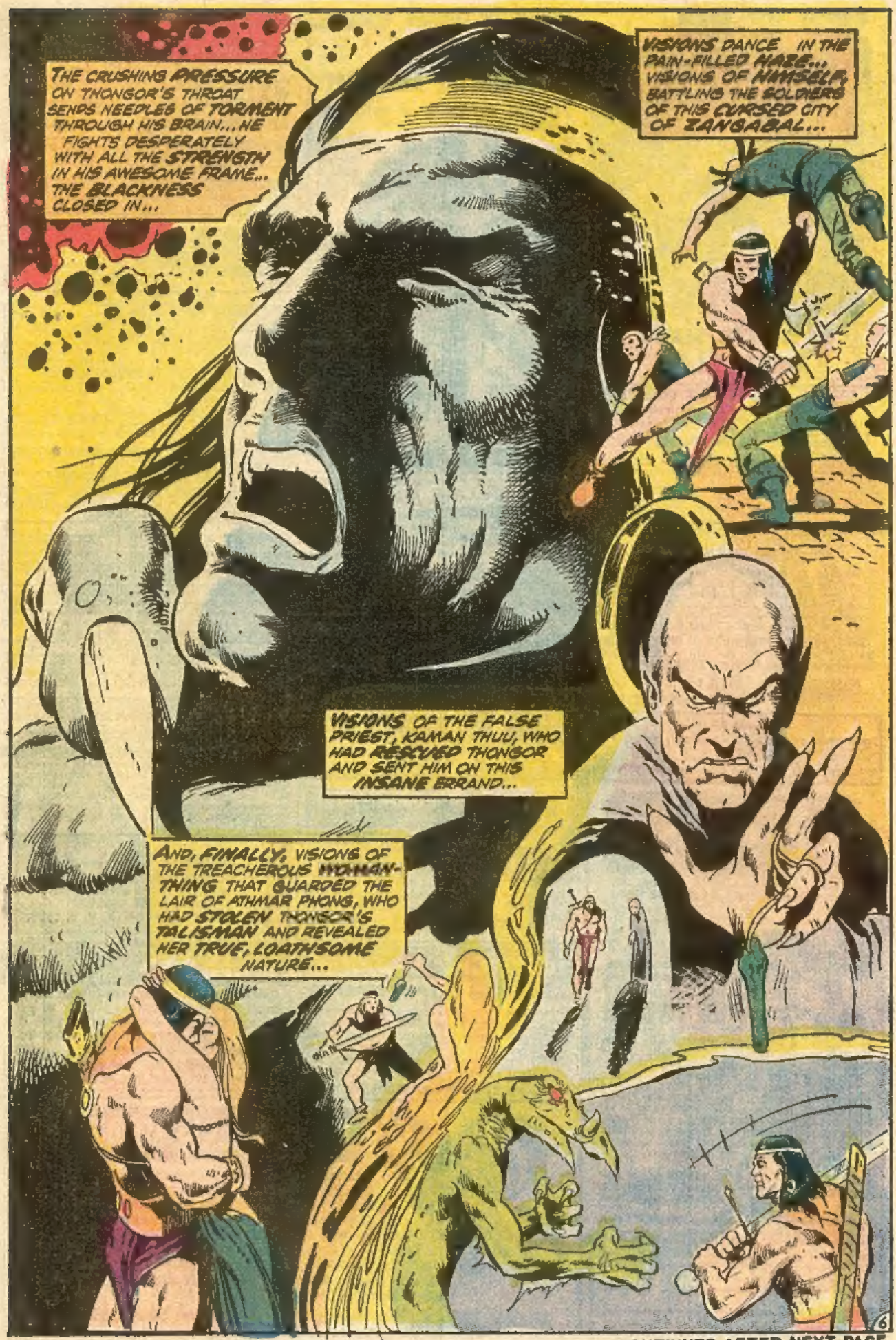
NAY! THE SINGLE THOUGHT SCREAMING IN THONGOR'S STUNNED MIND IS--
--SURVIVAL!
WEAPONLESS YOU ARE, MORTAL!
HELPLESS YOU WAIT FOR MY EMBRACE OF DEATH!
THE MONSTER IS NOT QUICK OF MIND... PERHAPS--
--IN ITS INSANE GLEE, IT HAS GIVEN ME A CHANCE!
YOU DIE, MAN OF FLESH!
GORM, AID ME!
GYAAAH!
I HAVE WON... ONLY A MOMENT.
4

RUUAGHH!
BUT A MOMENT IS ALL THAT'S NEEDED TO ONE USED TO LIVING BY WITS AND DARING ALONE--!
THERE... GLEAMING WHERE THAT FOUL BEAST DROPPED IT--
THE SHIELD OF CATHLODA, THE PRIEST'S PROTECTIVE TALISMAN!
SWIFTLY NOW, OR MY ONLY HOPE OF ESCAPING THIS DEN OF HELL IS LOST.
NO, FLESH-THING, YOU HAVE NOT WON!
BY GORM, I'LL SLAY YOU YET!
THOK!
I DON'T THINK SO, MORTAL!
HEAR YOUR BLOOD ROAR... SEE YOUR EYES CLOUD WITH DEATH'S DARKNESS...
UNNGHHH!
5


THE CRUSHING PRESSURE ON THONGOR'S THROAT SENDS NEEDLES OF TORMENT THROUGH HIS BRAIN... HE FIGHTS DESPERATELY WITH ALL THE STRENGTH IN HIS AWESOME FRAME... THE BLACKNESS CLOSED IN...
VISIONS DANCE IN THE PAIN-FILLED MAZE... VISIONS OF HIMSELF, BATTLING THE SOLDIERS OF THIS CURSED CITY OF ZANGABAL...
VISIONS OF THE FALSE PRIEST, KAMAN THUU, WHO HAD RESCUED THONGOR AND SENT HIM ON THIS INSANE ERRAND...
AND, FINALLY, VISIONS OF THE TREACHEROUS MOMAN-THING THAT GUARDED THE LAIR OF ATHMAR PHONG, WHO HAD STOLEN THONGOR'S TALISMAN AND REVEALED HER TRUE, LOATHSOME NATURE...
6

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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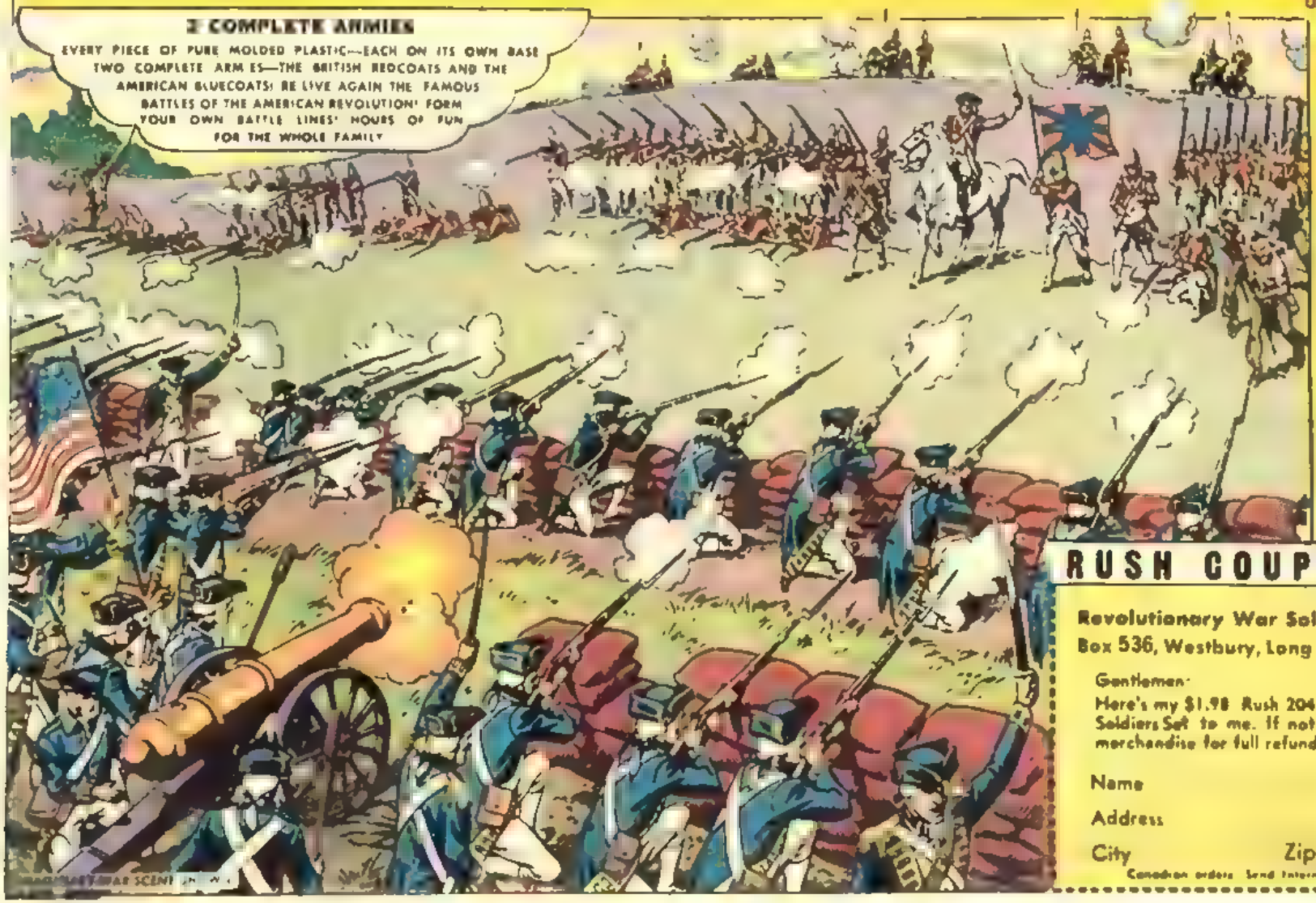

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FATHER GORM, DO NOT LET THIS BE!
YOUR GODS ARE NAUGHT TO ME, MORTAL.
UNHHH—
IT IS DONE!
GODS OR MEN, HOW CAN THEY STAND AGAINST SUCH AS I?
THE DEMON CHAINS THE LIMP BODY OF THONGOR IN THE FOULEST CELL, AS ITS WIZARD-MASTER ORDERED--
BUT BOTH MONSTER AND SORCEROR HAVE RECKONED WITHOUT THE POWERS OF THE MIGHTY YOUTH--!
UNNH!
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
IT HAS THE FEEL OF HELL.
IF ONLY I HAD BROUGHT THAT UNCLEAN HORROR WITH ME!
I WASN'T SURE IF YOU WERE ALIVE OR NOT.
I AM THONGOR, OF VALKARTH IN THE NORTHERN LANDS.
DRINK THIS, AND DO NOT TALK.
NOW YOU NEED REST.
NO, THIS ISN'T HELL... NOT YET.
MY NAME IS ALD THURMIS, I WAS OFFERED GOLD TO STEAL A CERTAIN MIRROR--
7

BY GORM'S BEARD! THAT LYING PRIEST SENT YOU!
KAMAN THUU WAS HIS NAME...
...AND HE DEARLY CRAVES THE MIRROR OF ZAFFAR.
BUT THE SCHEMES OF SUCH AS HE WILL NEVER MORE AFFECT US. LET US SLEEP WHILE WE CAN.
I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
THERE IS STILL TIME BEFORE THE WIZARD ATHMAR PHONG RETURNS AT DAWN...
I WILL NOT BE IN HIS POWER--!
THERE IS LITTLE WE CAN DO, MY FRIEND!
THESE CHAINS ARE OF PTARTHIAN STEEL--
AND I AM OF VALKARTHIAN BLOOD!
YOU CITY-MEN CAN NEVER KNOW THE JOY OF VALOR--
--NOT AS WE WHOM YOU CALL BARBARIANS!
SPANGG!
IN MY LAND, THE WEAK DIE YOUNG.
CRANGG!
WE'RE FREE!
BUT WHERE DO WE GO NOW?
THESE LENGTHS OF CHAIN MAY MAKE HASTY WEAPONS--
--BUT I WILL NOT LEAVE THIS PLACE WITHOUT THE SWORD OF MY FATHER!
SWORDS ARE EASILY BOUGHT, MY FRIEND.
BUT IF YOU HAVE SO DECIDED, I WILL COME WITH YOU...
...I OWE YOU MY LIFE, SHORT AS IT WILL BE!

A DEMON PRINCE IS TRAPPED WITHIN THE BLACK MIRROR OF ZAFFAR
I WOULD SEARCH FOR THAT, FOR NOTHING IS FORBIDDEN HIM WHO MOLDS IT!
I PRAY THAT THE MIRROR AND THE SWORD WILL NOT BE FAR APART!
LET US SEARCH IN HERE.
BY THE NINETEEN GODS! LET US FLEE!
FATHER GORM, THEY'RE BREEDING VATS!
WHY DOES ATHMAR PHONG LET THEM LIVE?
THEY SHOULD BE PUT OUT OF THEIR MISERY, AND BURNT!
COME, THERE ARE OTHER ROOMS
I SCARCELY BELIEVE SUCH BLASPHEMY EXISTS!
HERE IS THE THRONE ROOM OF THE WIZARD.
THIS IS WHAT WE SEEK.
AH, FLESH-THINGS, YOU WOULD RESUME OUR GAME?
GORM!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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Game Manager
Wildlife Officer
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Conservation Officer
Conservation Inspector
Big Game Control Assistant
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Pest Control Assistant

FISHERIES SERVICE
Fish Warden
Fish Management Specialist
Fisheries Technician
Fish Hatcheryman
Fish Culturist

PROFESSIONAL HUNTER
Game Trapper
Predator Control Agent
Hunting Guide
Wilderness Guide

PRIVATE INDUSTRY
Game Farm Manager
Game Preserve Manager
Nature Center Manager
Sportsmen's Club Manager

FOREST & PARK SERVICE
Assistant Park Ranger
Recreation Area Manager
Park Attendant
Forest Fire Warden
Fire Inspector
Fire Control Aid
Forest Fire Lookout
County Ranger
Forest Officer
Forestry Technician
Inspector

NAMED WARDEN IN CHARGE OF HAWAIIAN [illegible]
[illegible] ish & game work here [illegible] in charge of the Island of [illegible] Islands) — the respons[illegible]

LANDS JOB FIRST DAY AFTER GRADUATION!
[illegible] and examination on Sun[illegible] ... & game, [illegible] I consider fast results! [illegible]

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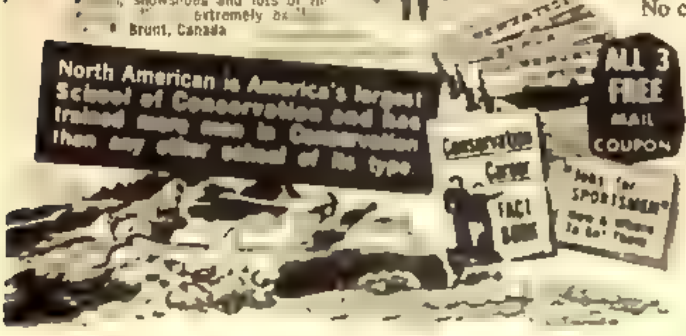
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KRASH!
SINGLY WE WERE VANQUISHED, THONGOR!
BUT TOGETHER WE MAKE THE SITUATION VERY DIFFERENT!
I TAKE NO DELIGHT IN CAPTURE OR DEATH--
THUNK!
--AND THIS FOUL THING MUST LEARN THE WORTH OF A BARBARIAN LIFE!
SWORD OF THUM-ITHAR!
THIS BEAST HAS FEW BRAINS, MY FRIEND!
GLOPP!
RRARGH!
ARMED WITH OUR NATURAL WEAPONS, WE WILL NOT BE KEPT FROM VICTORY.
RECOVER OUR SWORDS, WHILE I PUNISH THE DEMON.
HERE, THURMIS, THIS PUNY THING MUST BE YOURS!
DO NOT SCOFF, BARBARIAN!
THERE ARE OTHER WAYS TO FIGHT THAN YOURS!
OBSERVE--
--WITHOUT YOUR POWER, I MUST USE CUNNING!
SPAKK!
AAUAGH!
A PITY I GIVE YOU NO CHANCE, MORTAL!
TALK AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE--
--I WILL STILL TRIUMPH!
THONK!

MALT, DEMON! LET HIM BE!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN SO SOON THE BATTLE I GAVE YOU?
WITH THIS SWORD AGAIN I--
--GORM BE PRAISED! THE TALISMAN!
I HOPED TO SAVAGE YOU FOR MY MASTERS ENTERTAINMENT--
--BUT NOW--
BUT NOW, DEMON--
KKALAAMMM!
--THE SHIELD OF CATHLODA SENDS YOU SHRIEKING BACK TO HELL!
WHAT--?
THE DEMON--? HAVE WE BEATEN IT?
I OWE THAT FOUL TOAD OF A PRIEST A DEBT OF THANKS, AFTER ALL.
LET US LEAVE THIS STINKING PLACE.
IT IS TOO LATE!
BY THE GODS OF ZANGABAL, LOOK!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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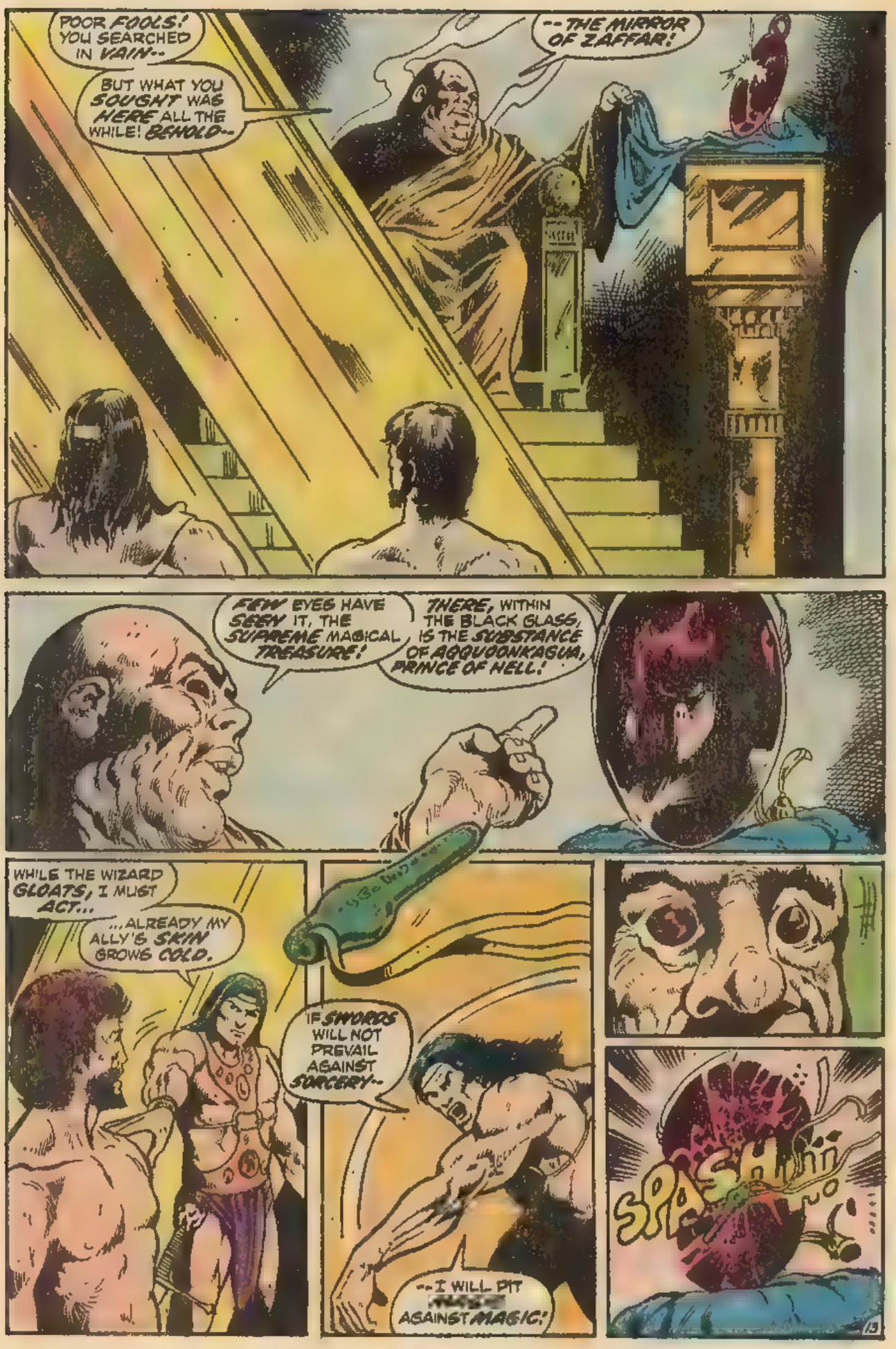
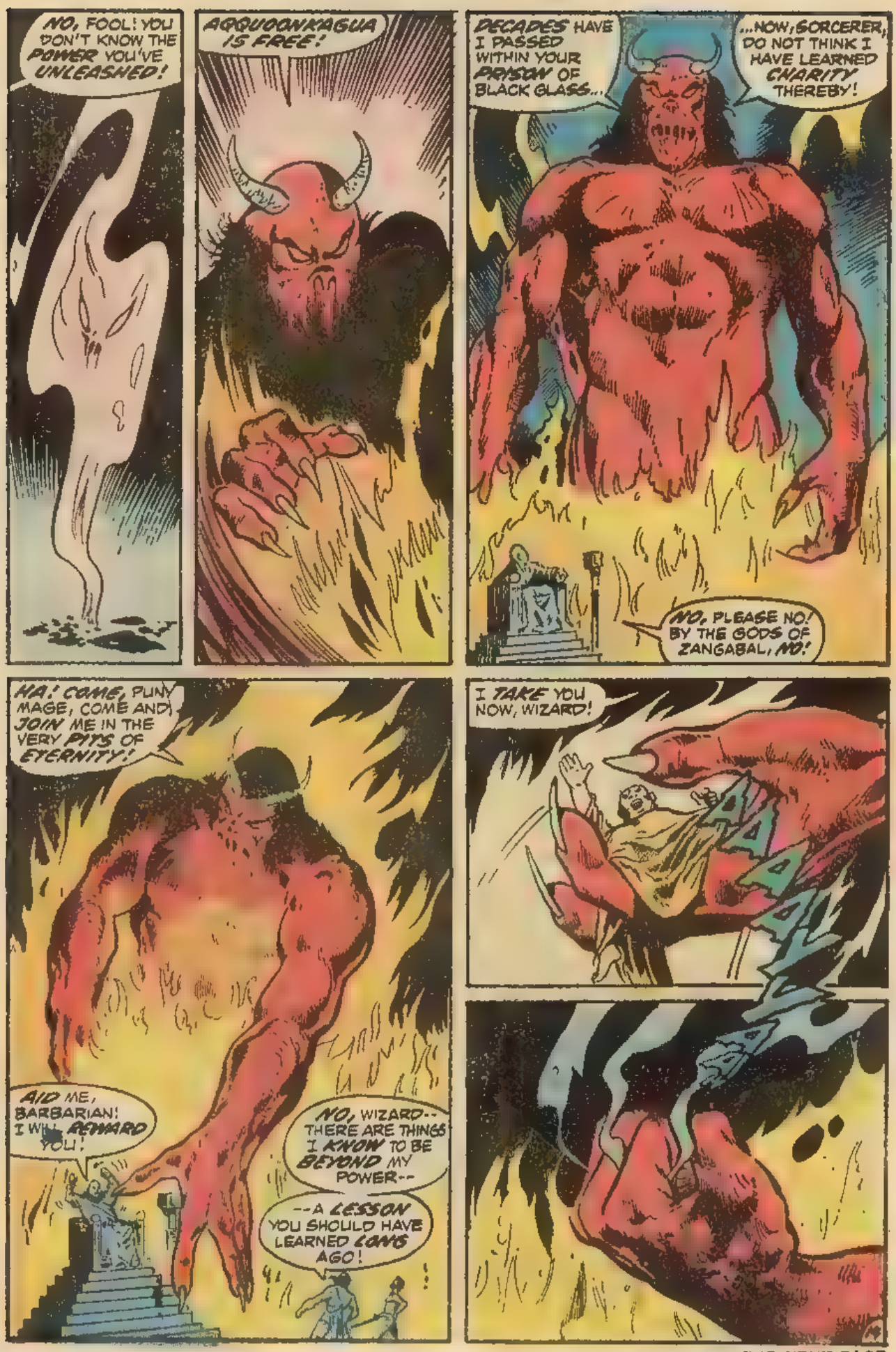
THE WIZARD RETURNS!
THIEVES IN MY HOUSE, EH? AND CLEVER ONES!
I CONGRATULATE YOU ON DEFEATING MY GUARDIAN SPIRIT.
I SHALL DELVE INTO YOUR MIND, SAVAGE YOUTH.
AH, DEAR KAMAN THUU SENT YOU, AS HE SENT YOUR COMRADE WEEKS AGO...
...I SHALL HAVE TO DEAL WITH THAT PRIEST!
FIRST, THOUGH, THIS RAY TO HOLD YOU STILL.
YOUR FLESH WILL SLOWLY TURN TO STONE, AND AS STATUES YOU TWO SHALL GRACE MY HALLS!
I... CAN'T... MOVE--
WORRY NOT, MY FRIEND, FOR THE TALISMAN PROTECTS ME STILL!
THONGOR, IT DOESN'T AID ME, AND THE PAIN--
--AAGHH!
12


POOR FOOLS! YOU SEARCHED IN VAIN--
BUT WHAT YOU SOUGHT WAS HERE ALL THE WHILE! BEHOLD--
--THE MIRROR OF ZAFFAR!
FEW EYES HAVE SEEN IT, THE SUPREME MAGICAL TREASURE!
THERE, WITHIN THE BLACK GLASS, IS THE SUBSTANCE OF AGGUOONKAGUA, PRINCE OF HELL!
WHILE THE WIZARD GLOATS, I MUST ACT...
...ALREADY MY ALLY'S SKIN GROWS COLD.
IF SWORDS WILL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST SORCERY--
--I WILL PIT MAGIC AGAINST MAGIC!
SPLASH!!!
13


NO, FOOL! YOU DON'T KNOW THE POWER YOU'VE UNLEASHED!
AQQUOONKAGUA IS FREE!
DECADES HAVE I PASSED WITHIN YOUR PRISON OF BLACK GLASS...
...NOW, SORCERER, DO NOT THINK I HAVE LEARNED CHARITY THEREBY!
NO, PLEASE NO! BY THE GODS OF ZANGABAL, NO!
HA! COME, PUNY MAGE, COME AND JOIN ME IN THE VERY PITS OF ETERNITY!
I TAKE YOU NOW, WIZARD!
AID ME, BARBARIAN! I WILL REWARD YOU!
NO, WIZARD-- THERE ARE THINGS I KNOW TO BE BEYOND MY POWER--
--A LESSON YOU SHOULD HAVE LEARNED EONS AGO!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

MEN! WOMEN!... *help those who can't help themselves!*

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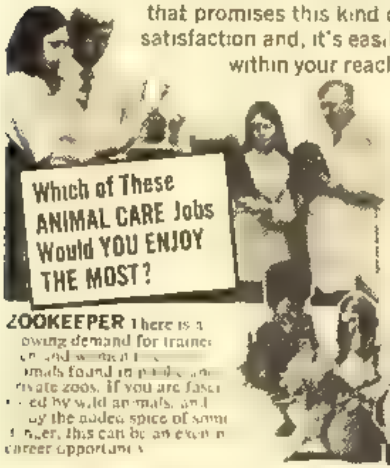

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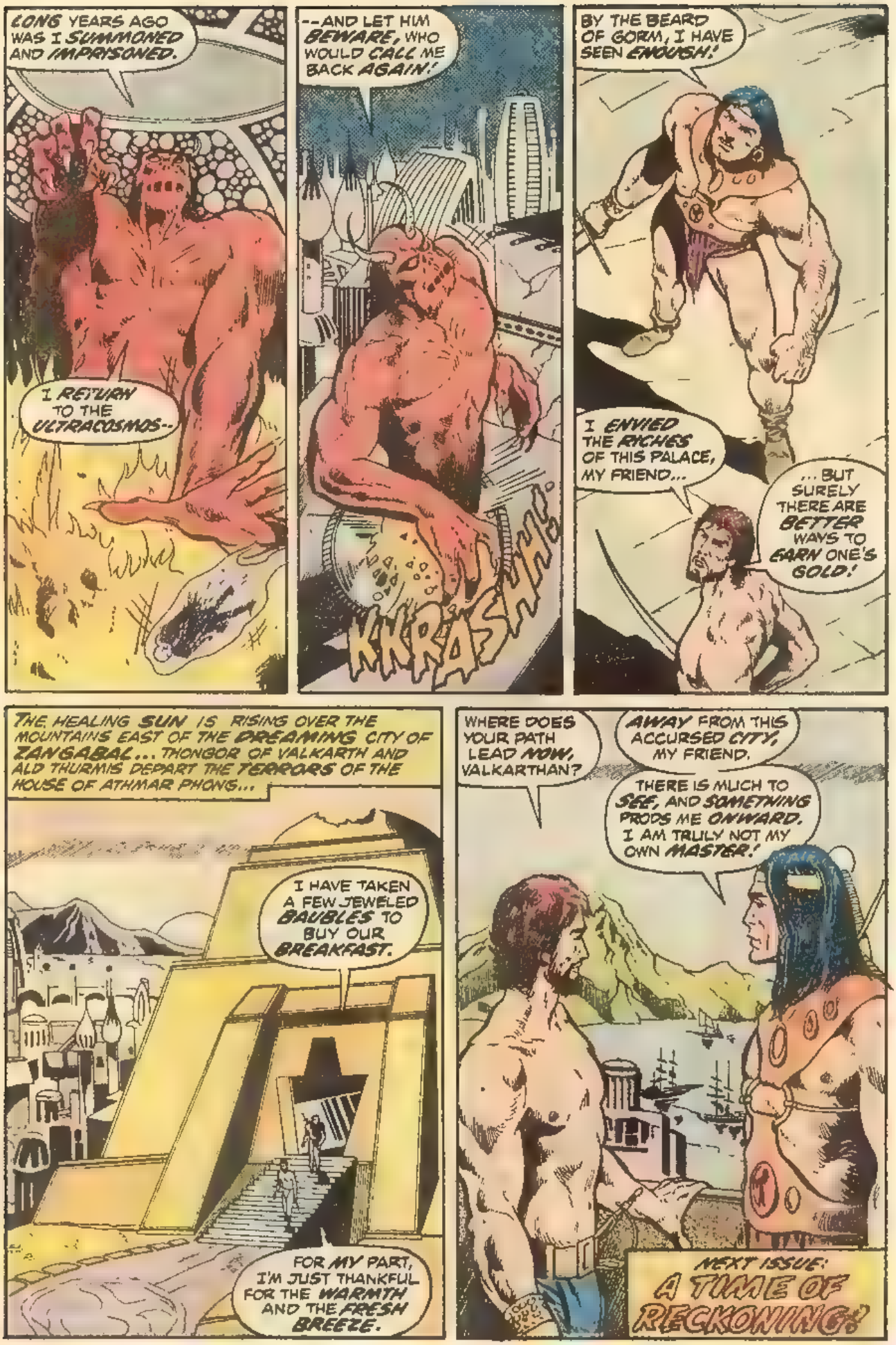
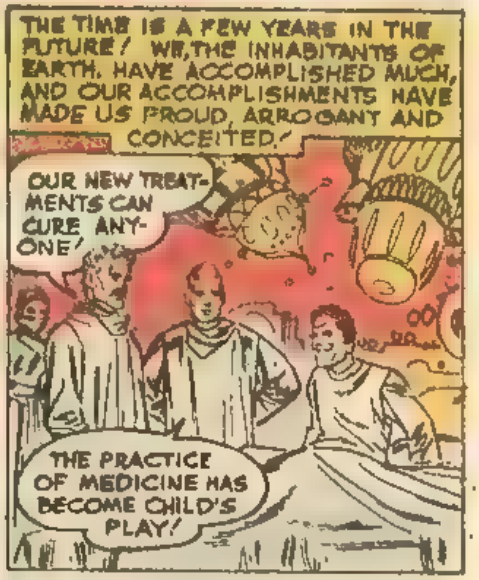
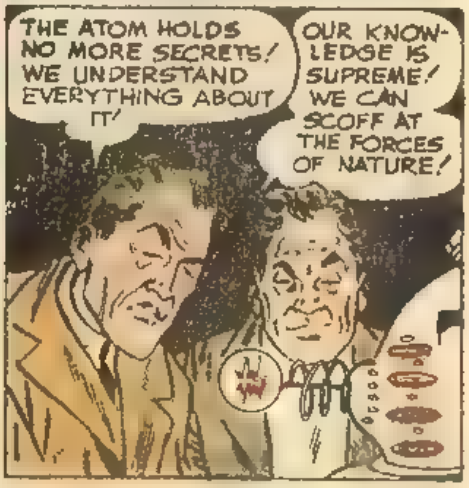
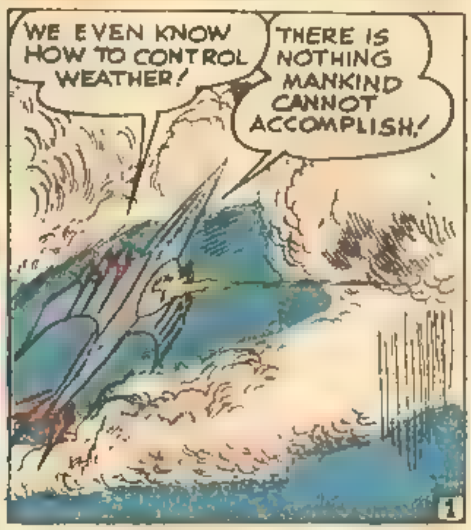
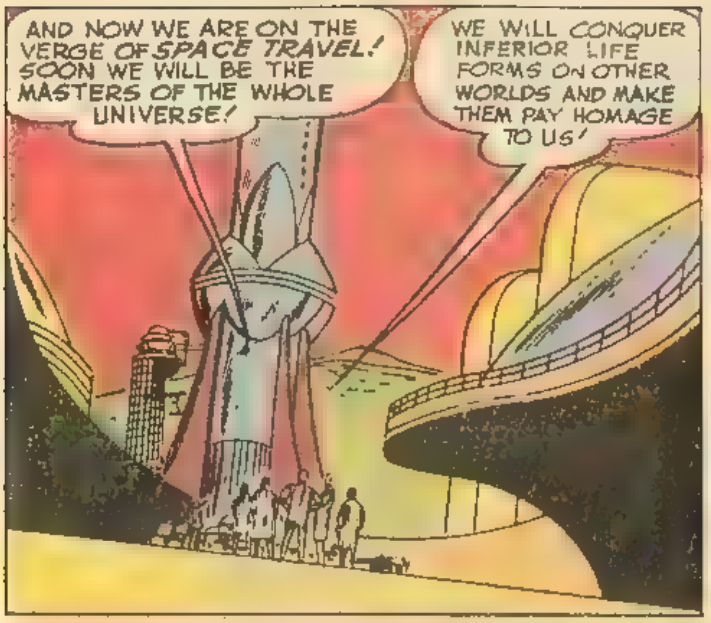

LONG YEARS AGO WAS I SUMMONED AND IMPRISONED.
I RETURN TO THE ULTRACOSMOS--
--AND LET HIM BEWARE, WHO WOULD CALL ME BACK AGAIN!
KKRASHH!
BY THE BEARD OF GORM, I HAVE SEEN ENOUGH!
I ENVIED THE RICHES OF THIS PALACE, MY FRIEND...
...BUT SURELY THERE ARE BETTER WAYS TO EARN ONE'S GOLD!
THE HEALING SUN IS RISING OVER THE MOUNTAINS EAST OF THE DREAMING CITY OF ZANGABAL... THONGOR OF VALKARTH AND ALD THURMIS DEPART THE TERRORS OF THE HOUSE OF ATHMAR PHONG...
I HAVE TAKEN A FEW JEWELED BAUBLES TO BUY OUR BREAKFAST.
FOR MY PART, I'M JUST THANKFUL FOR THE WARMTH AND THE FRESH BREEZE.
WHERE DOES YOUR PATH LEAD NOW, VALKARTHAN?
AWAY FROM THIS ACCURSED CITY, MY FRIEND.
THERE IS MUCH TO SEE, AND SOMETHING PRODS ME ONWARD. I AM TRULY NOT MY OWN MASTER!
NEXT ISSUE:
A TIME OF RECKONING!

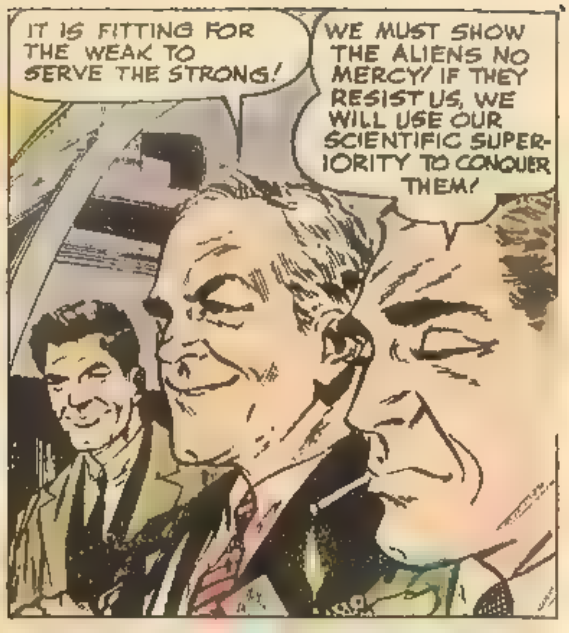
THE Coming OF THE GIANTS!

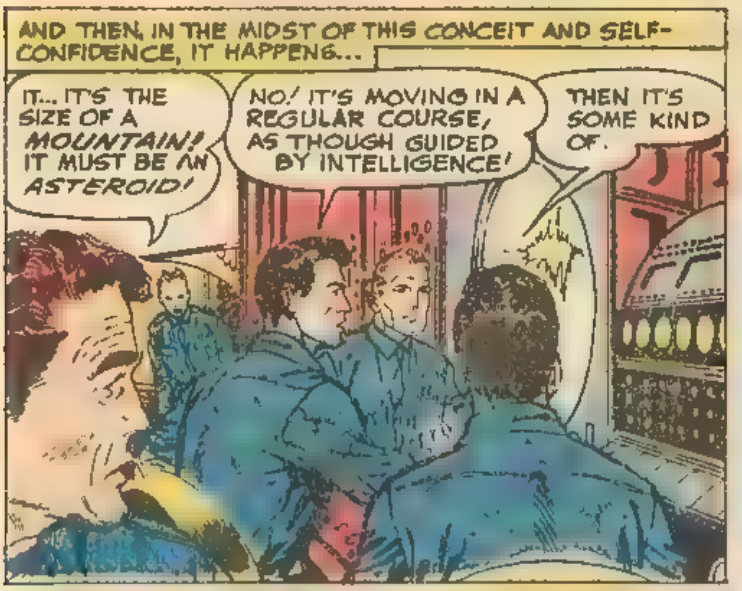

THE TIME IS A FEW YEARS IN THE FUTURE! WE, THE INHABITANTS OF EARTH, HAVE ACCOMPLISHED MUCH, AND OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS HAVE MADE US PROUD, ARROGANT AND CONCEITED!
OUR NEW TREATMENTS CAN CURE ANYONE!
THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE HAS BECOME CHILD'S PLAY!

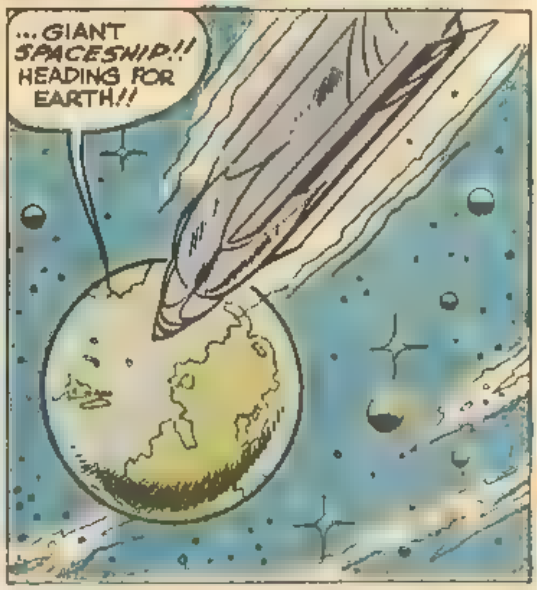

THE ATOM HOLDS NO MORE SECRETS! WE UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING ABOUT IT!
OUR KNOWLEDGE IS SUPREME! WE CAN SCOFF AT THE FORCES OF NATURE!

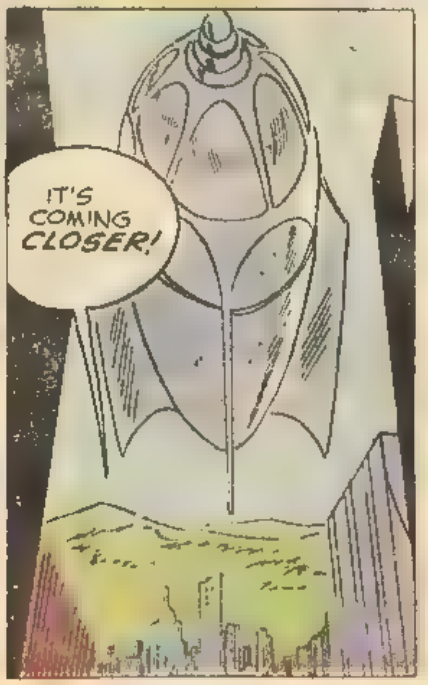



AND NOW WE ARE ON THE VERGE OF SPACE TRAVEL! SOON WE WILL BE THE MASTERS OF THE WHOLE UNIVERSE!
WE WILL CONQUER INFERIOR LIFE FORMS ON OTHER WORLDS AND MAKE THEM PAY HOMAGE TO US!


IT IS FITTING FOR THE WEAK TO SERVE THE STRONG!
WE MUST SHOW THE ALIENS NO MERCY! IF THEY RESIST US, WE WILL USE OUR SCIENTIFIC SUPERIORITY TO CONQUER THEM!


AND THEN, IN THE MIDST OF THIS CONCEIT AND SELF-CONFIDENCE, IT HAPPENS...
IT... IT'S THE SIZE OF A MOUNTAIN! IT MUST BE AN ASTEROID!
NO! IT'S MOVING IN A REGULAR COURSE, AS THOUGH GUIDED BY INTELLIGENCE!
THEN IT'S SOME KIND OF.





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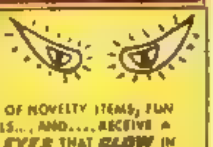

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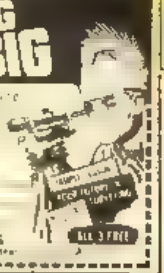

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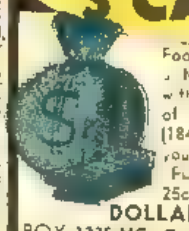

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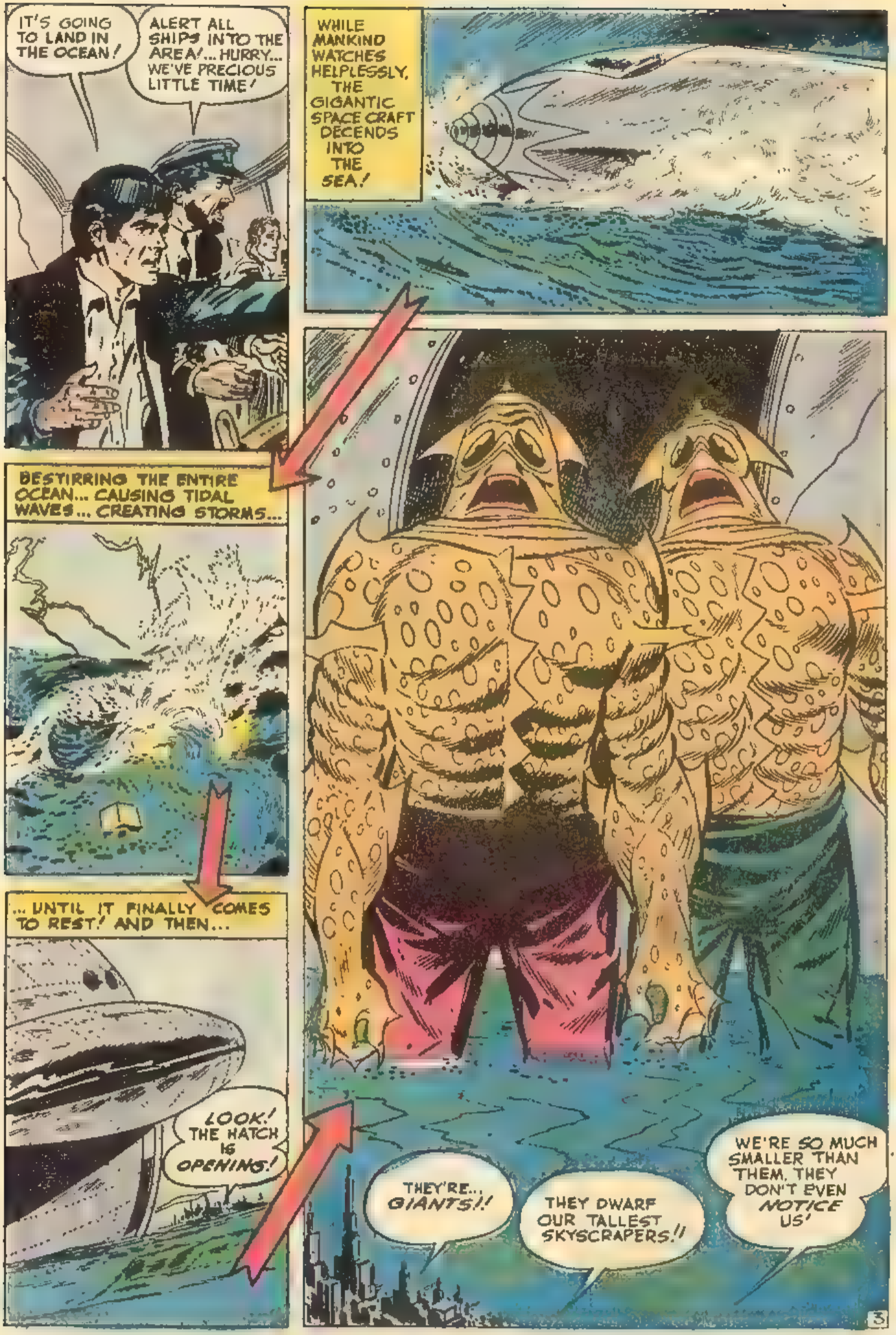
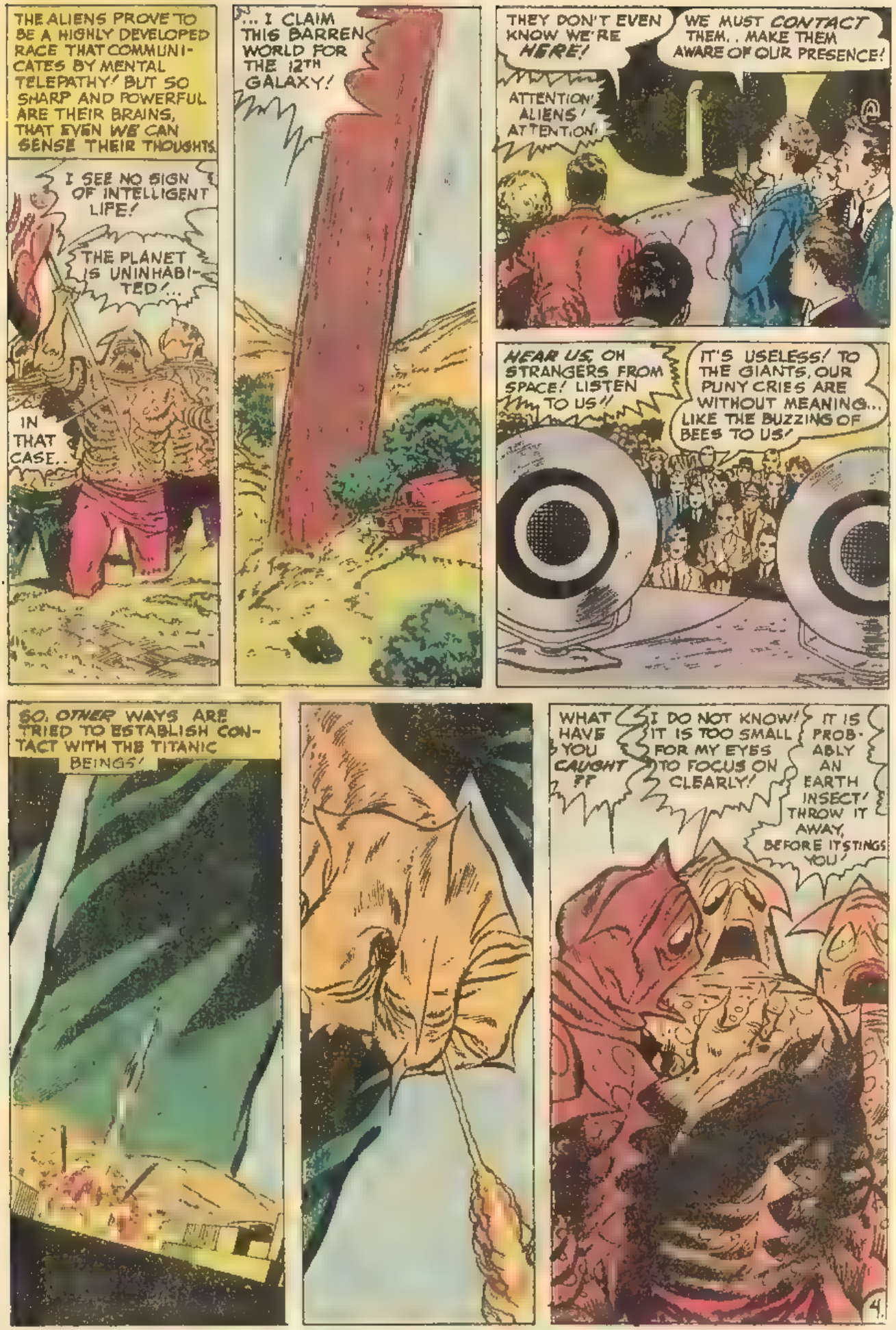
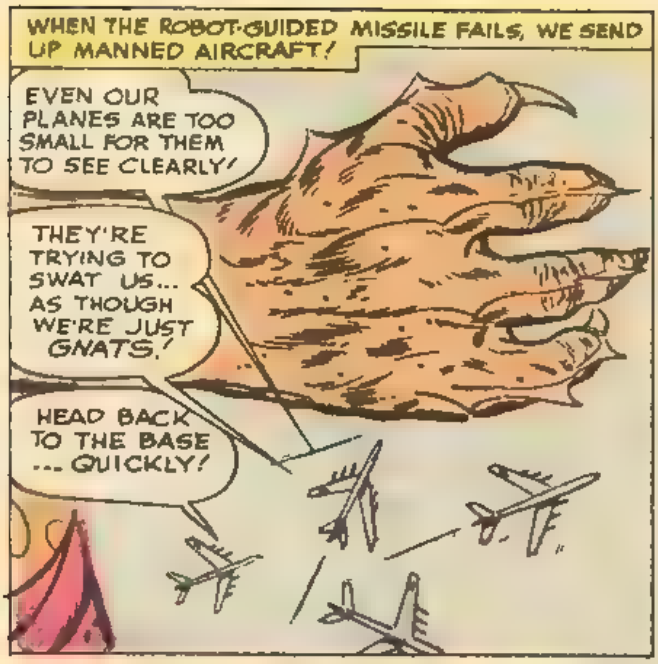
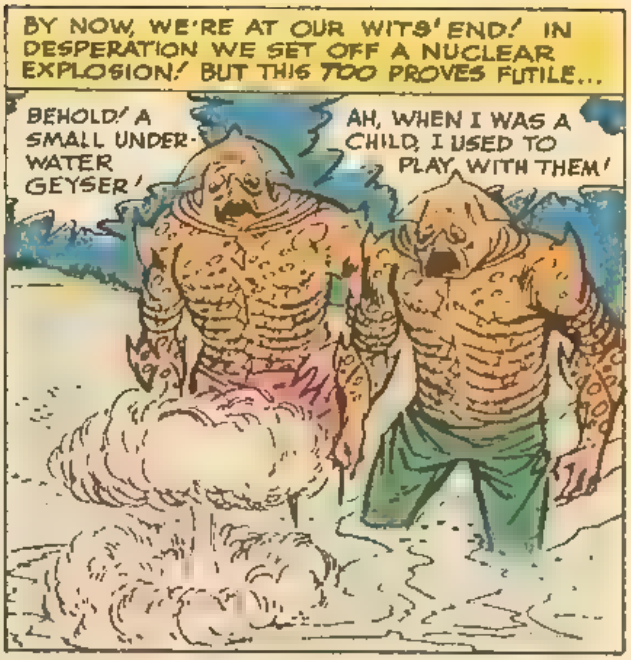
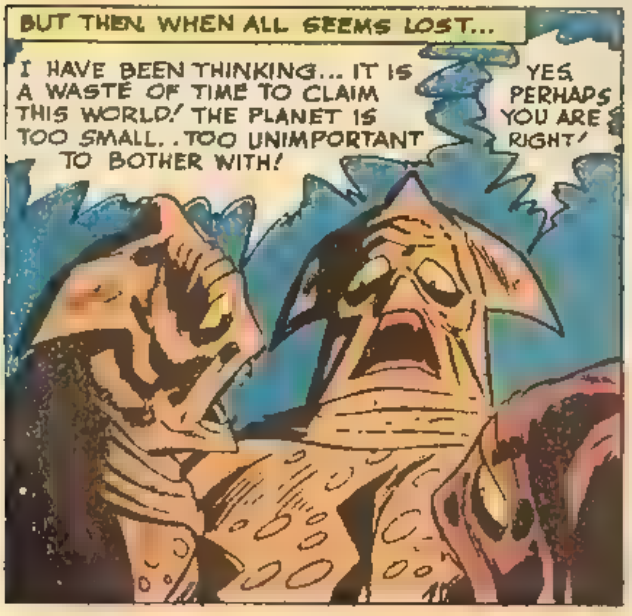
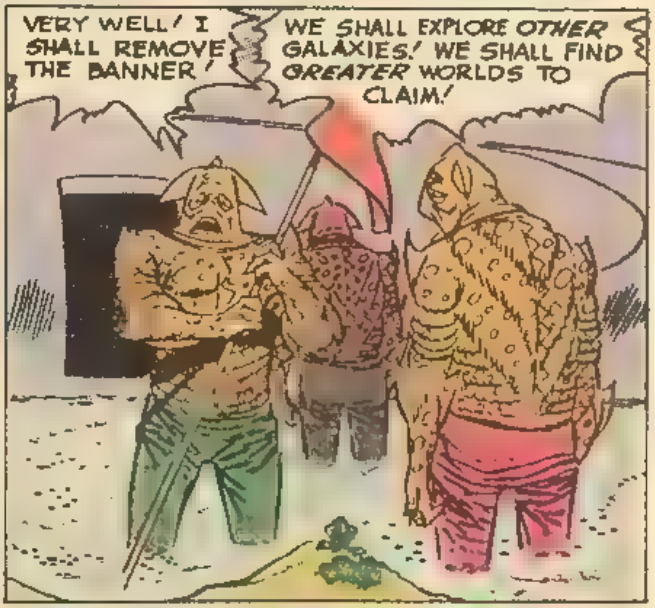

IT'S GOING TO LAND IN THE OCEAN!
ALERT ALL SHIPS INTO THE AREA!... HURRY... WE'VE PRECIOUS LITTLE TIME!
WHILE MANKIND WATCHES HELPLESSLY, THE GIGANTIC SPACE CRAFT DECENDS INTO THE SEA!
BESTIRRING THE ENTIRE OCEAN... CAUSING TIDAL WAVES... CREATING STORMS...
...UNTIL IT FINALLY COMES TO REST! AND THEN...
LOOK! THE HATCH IS OPENING!
THEY'RE... GIANTS!!
THEY DWARF OUR TALLEST SKYSCRAPERS!!
WE'RE SO MUCH SMALLER THAN THEM, THEY DON'T EVEN NOTICE US!
3


THE ALIENS PROVE TO BE A HIGHLY DEVELOPED RACE THAT COMMUNICATES BY MENTAL TELEPATHY! BUT SO SHARP AND POWERFUL ARE THEIR BRAINS, THAT EVEN WE CAN SENSE THEIR THOUGHTS.
I SEE NO SIGN OF INTELLIGENT LIFE!
THE PLANET IS UNINHABITED!...
IN THAT CASE..
... I CLAIM THIS BARREN WORLD FOR THE 12TH GALAXY!
THEY DON'T EVEN KNOW WE'RE HERE!
WE MUST CONTACT THEM.. MAKE THEM AWARE OF OUR PRESENCE!
ATTENTION! ALIENS! ATTENTION!
HEAR US, OH STRANGERS FROM SPACE! LISTEN TO US!!
IT'S USELESS! TO THE GIANTS, OUR PUNY CRIES ARE WITHOUT MEANING... LIKE THE BUZZING OF BEES TO US!
SO, OTHER WAYS ARE TRIED TO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH THE TITANIC BEINGS!
WHAT HAVE YOU CAUGHT ??
I DO NOT KNOW! IT IS TOO SMALL FOR MY EYES TO FOCUS ON CLEARLY!
IT IS PROBABLY AN EARTH INSECT! THROW IT AWAY, BEFORE IT STINGS YOU!
4.

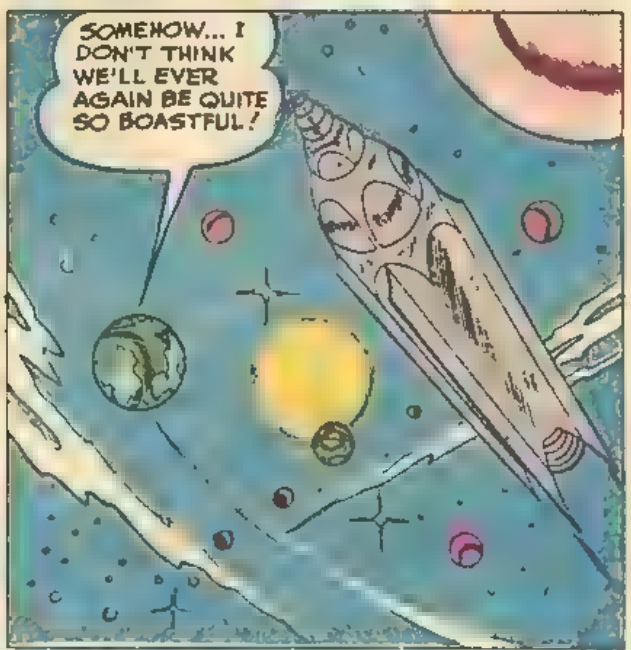

WHEN THE ROBOT-GUIDED MISSILE FAILS, WE SEND UP MANNED AIRCRAFT!
EVEN OUR PLANES ARE TOO SMALL FOR THEM TO SEE CLEARLY!
THEY'RE TRYING TO SWAT US... AS THOUGH WE'RE JUST GNATS!
HEAD BACK TO THE BASE ... QUICKLY!


BY NOW, WE'RE AT OUR WITS' END! IN DESPERATION WE SET OFF A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION! BUT THIS TOO PROVES FUTILE...
BEHOLD! A SMALL UNDER-WATER GEYSER!
AH, WHEN I WAS A CHILD, I USED TO PLAY WITH THEM!


BUT THEN, WHEN ALL SEEMS LOST...
I HAVE BEEN THINKING... IT IS A WASTE OF TIME TO CLAIM THIS WORLD! THE PLANET IS TOO SMALL.. TOO UNIMPORTANT TO BOTHER WITH!
YES, PERHAPS YOU ARE RIGHT!


VERY WELL! I SHALL REMOVE THE BANNER!
WE SHALL EXPLORE OTHER GALAXIES! WE SHALL FIND GREATER WORLDS TO CLAIM!

AND, MOMENTS LATER, THE INCREDIBLE NIGHTMARE COMES TO AN END!
THEY'RE LEAVING! WE'RE SAVED!!
AND ALL BECAUSE WE WERE TOO INSIGNIFICANT FOR THEM TO BOTHER WITH!
BEFORE THEY CAME, WE THOUGHT WE WERE THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE!
5


SOMEHOW... I DON'T THINK WE'LL EVER AGAIN BE QUITE SO BOASTFUL!

THE END

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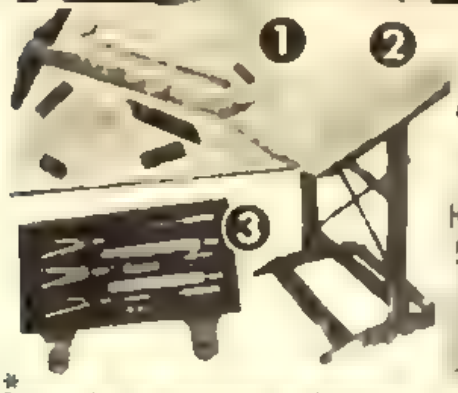

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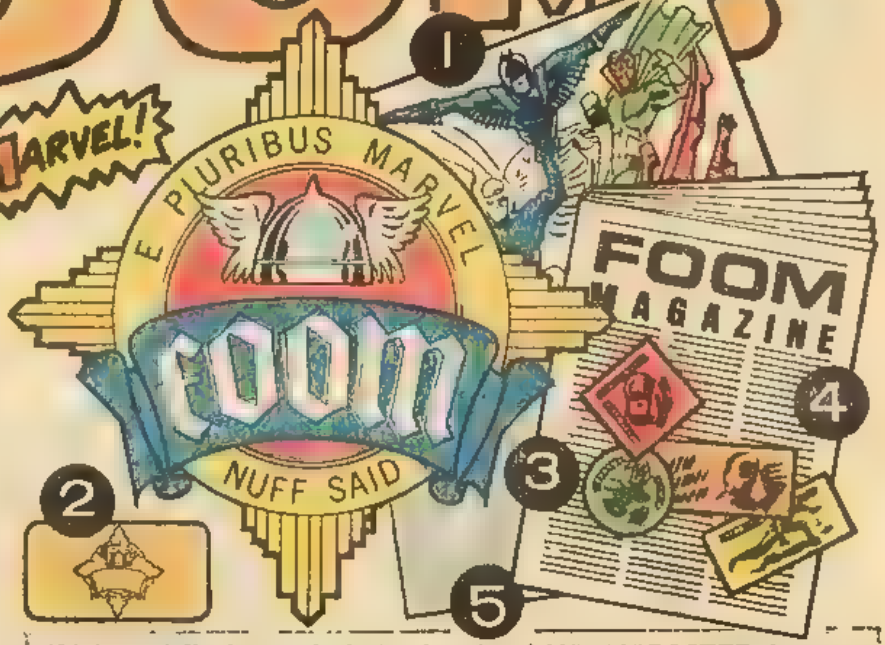

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CREATURE FEATURES

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 575 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

Dear Group:

Congratulations on CREATURES ON THE LOOSE #21. The issue started out strong with the Jim Steranko cover, perhaps the best piece of art produced by Jim since his recent return to Marvel—very striking indeed.

You've introduced an interesting idea into Gullivar's plotline, one that could definitely be explored and exploited for many issues to come. That's having Gullivar's band be exiles of every society on Mars. A princess with no subjects, a birdman who might as well be wingless, and an earthling with no planet to call his own.

But alas and alack, the story ends happily with only an underlying sense of foreboding, albeit enough to keep the title going. And that brings me to the most important subject of this letter. You asked us for our opinions on whether to keep Gullivar galavanting, and my answer is yes! By all means keep Gullivar going, hopefully in his own book with longer stories, but in any case—alive. Effinger and Morrow have collaborated to produce an excellent and unique adventure series.

By the way, I'm looking forward to seeing Ar-Hap back again. After all, he must be the first schizophrenic Martian in comics. Thanks for your time.

David Chamberlain, 1840 SE 117th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97216

Bullpen,

Do I want to see more of GULLIVAR JONES? YES!!

Pax,

Duffy Vohland, Box 70
Clarksburg, Ind. 47225

Dear Stan, Roy, George, and Grey,

The "Warrior of Mars" epic in CREATURES ON THE LOOSE #21 was magnificent. I hope that you will soon give Gullivar Jones a mag of his own. Make Mine Marvel.

Reed Secord
(no address given)

Dear Stan and Company,

I really enjoyed issues #20 and #21 of CREATURES ON THE LOOSE. The story really picked up in these issues, and the art by Gray Morrow has to be the best I've seen in quite a long time. Gray Morrow, in my opinion, is one of the best artists working for Marvel. Give Gullivar of Mars his own book, with Gray Morrow as artist, and I'm sure it will be a hit.

Craig Guillery
(no address given)

Dear Roy,

About "Gullivar Jones" . . . I liked it. My thought when I first read CREATURES #16 was, "Give him his own book." But the six-issue sequence as it was, including the ending (dug it) went down real smooth. I think now it's a good format for this story, and perhaps for other adaptations.

Anyhow, my vote is for doing another chapter of Gullivar. Even though the reprints are mostly pretty good, a new face now and then makes the monsterish mags really worth collecting.

And another thing. That Steranko cover on #21? WOW!

Randall W. Scott, 300 M.A.C. #5
E. Lansing, Mich. 48823

David, Duffy, Reed, Craig, and Randall, our thanks to you and the many others who put pen, typewriter, pencil, and even crayon to paper to write in behalf of Gullivar Jones.

Some straight answers. There are no immediate plans for reviving the "Warrior of Mars" strip. Strange as it seems, we've already come to think of it as a kind of mini-classic, a one-of-a-kind in comics. We'd sorta hate to tamper with a thing like that. And there are other, more practical reasons also . . .

As we've mentioned before, we can't add another mag to our already-overcrowded schedule without risking a nervous collapse *en masse* on the part of the Bullpen.

Secondly, when the opportunity does present itself to do yet another book, we want it to be something special. And we've been hearing an awful lot of "Bring back the X-Men!" and "Bring back the Silver Surfer!" shouts lately.

So, for the nonce, Gully and his band of red-planet rejects (sorry, David—we couldn't resist!) will live happily on Mars, while we Terrans must be content to stand bedazzled by the exploits of THONGER OF LOST LEMURIA. Not such a bad fate, when you think on it.

Next ish, your comments on this latest addition to Marvel's growing ranks of bludgeoning barbaric heroes. Till then, as they used to say on Mars (and sometimes in Lemuria, too): "Ne'er get caught up the canal without a paddle."

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What can you do about it?

Maybe you've thought of trying again to get a diploma. But you've suffered enough classroom "battle fatigue" to last you a lifetime. So you'd hate to travel that route again even if you could.

But what if we told you that there was now a much better way to get a high school education? An adult way, which gives you regular high school subjects and your choice of practical vocational subjects which help you get started in one of a number of profitable fields.

That's the unique Wayne School way. You do your reading and assignments in your spare time, in the relaxed atmosphere of your own home, and "turn in" your completed assignments by mail. You don't have to give up your present job. You don't have to study or travel to class at inconvenient times.

And you needn't be afraid of dropping out all over again, if you had trouble with school before. Wayne's specially prepared lessons make even difficult subjects much easier to take. And Wayne grades your assignments in private, by mail. You're free from competitive classroom pressures. You stay relaxed, and your progress is much smoother.

If you're 17 or over and not now in school, why not send for more information? Mail coupon for our free booklet, *"How to finish High School at home."* You're in for a pleasant surprise.

Wayne School

wants to help you finish high school at home

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Wayne School
A leader in home study
417 S. Dearborn Street. Dept. 88-553
Chicago, Illinois 60605

Please send me your free illustrated booklet *"How to finish High School at home"* containing full information about your courses.

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*Address*_____ *Apt. No.*_____

*City*_____

*State*_____ *Zip*_____

WZ1

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BODYBUILDING COURSE –

INTRODUCING

THE BODYBUILDING SYSTEM THAT GUARANTEES –

YOU'LL PUT ON INCHES OF POWERFUL MUSCLES ON YOUR BODY!

At last, NEW bodybuilding secrets are now available for your use. Finally, after years of experimenting we have come up with the fastest muscle building system in the world. Our course really works – **thousands** have taken our course and have obtained fantastic results. Right in the privacy or your own bedroom, you can completely transform your body.

SEE YOUR MUSCLES GROW DAY BY DAY!

You can have POWERFUL MUSCLES FAST . . . not by years and years of hard work . . . but by simply following our fascinating system . . . a system that works so fast you can see results from day to day! Isn't that the kind of course you want? We absolutely guarantee results.

HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE LETTERS WE HAVE RECEIVED –

"Wow! I'm making fantastic gains, following your new method of muscle building. I never knew it could be so easy to build muscles."
J. Johnson

"I was a skinny weakling when I enrolled, now I've gained 30 pounds in just 45 days. I am truly amazed. I'm going to be dynamite on the beach."
B. Abbott

"In just 3 weeks I have gained 1½" on my arms and 4" on my chest. I have also lost 4" off my waist. Your course is just great!"
D. Roberts

"I'm transforming all the fat off my body and changing it into rock-hard muscle. It's amazing – I have lost 8" off my waist. I can actually see my muscles growing from day to day."
P. Williams

"I have gained 20 pounds in just 30 days and I have gained over 6 inches on my chest. I find that my power has doubled. In sports I am a winner in everything I do."
B. Daniels

"I have gained 5" on my arms and 12" on my chest, while losing 3" off my waist. I have tripled my power and speed. Thanks for what you have done for me!"
M. Robinson

MORRIE MITCHELL GAINED 65 POUNDS OF MUSCLE WHILE FOLLOWING OUR 'REVOLUTIONARY NEW METHODS' ON BODYBUILDING.

TAKE YOUR CHOICE! You Can Do This...

★ DOUBLE OR TRIPLE YOUR STRENGTH in record time! It wouldn't take long before you can perform feats of strength.

★ BUILD HUGE – GIANT SIZE muscles – fast. You'll have bulging muscles before you know it.

★ TRIM YOUR WAIST by following ultra-modern methods. It won't take long before your waist shows washboard abdominal muscles.

★ GAIN WEIGHT – You can actually gain up to 50 pounds of rock-hard muscle.

★ LOSE FAT – You'll find it easy to get rid of excess fat and replace it with muscle.

★ FEEL 100% BETTER – You can't help but feel great once you own a muscular body.

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Box 485, Dept. P
Dearborn, Mich. 48121

Shoot the 'works' to me free! Rush me all that free muscle-building information, so that I can add inches of powerful muscles – all in the privacy of my home. I am sending 25¢ to help cover postage and handling costs. I am under no obligation. (Please print)

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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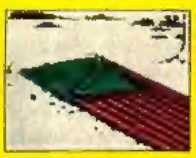
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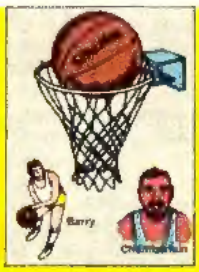
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